math teachers for the Interactive Math Program. In addition to this Connecticut Teacher of the Year award, Mrs. Cavanaugh was a finalist for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching in 1998 and 1986, the 1998 Glastonbury Teacher of the Year, the Connecticut Association of School Superintendents' Middle School Teacher of the Year finalist in 1997, and Celebration of Excellence winner in 1986. As a resident of Marlborough, Connecticut, she and her husband Roy Cavanaugh have four children, Lindsey, Matthew, Shannon, and Kevin.

Again, I would like to commend Mrs. Cavanaugh on this achievement. She displays the kind of dedication, determination, and enthusiasm that make our public school system work. With teachers of Mrs. Cavanaugh's caliber, this next generation of Americans will surely reach the stars.

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM CAFARO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember William Cafaro, a brilliant entrepreneur, a generous philanthropist, a political activist, and a good friend.

Mr. Cafaro changed the way America shops by pioneering the shopping center industry. He built some of the nation's first strip plazas and enclosed malls. His privately owned company has consistently ranked in the top ten largest commercial real estate developers in the nation. Mr. Cafaro emerged as a real estate developer and entrepreneur in the 1940's and soon revolutionized the industry nationwide.

This self-made man never forgot his roots. He has been recognized by countless organizations for his generosity and philanthropic work in the community. Among numerous other civic activities, Mr. Cafaro was especially involved in his church and in education. He was recently awarded a lifetime achievement award for humanitarian service from the National Italian American Foundation and was honored by President Clinton.

Mr. Cafaro was active in politics as well. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention for three presidential elections and was a member of the Electoral College. He was friends with several Presidents including Harry S. Truman, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton and visited the White House many times.

Above all, Mr. Cafaro never lost sight of what was most important to him: his family, church, company, and community. His leadership and generosity are a great loss.

HUMAN RIGHTS SPEECH

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the attached excerpt from a speech I gave to the Columbus Human Rights Commission on April 4, 1998.

ADDRESS TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ANNUAL DINNER, COLUMBUS, INDIANA, APRIL 4, 1998

(By Lee H. Hamilton)

I want to talk with you tonight about the challenges we face in advancing human rights. A deep concern for human rights is a basic and fundamental expression of the values of the American people. It is part of who we are and what we are.

In one sense, the history of this country can be told as the story of the advancement of human rights. Our ancestors fought a War of Independence to secure civil and political liberties, and a Civil War to ensure that all of its people, black and white, should be free and enjoy the basic rights of citizenship. In this century, Americans have struggled to secure political, social, and economic rights for women, minorities, and working people.

American has also been a model, a guide to other countries in its concern for human rights. With some success, and with some failures, too, we have sought to promote democratic institutions and the observance of human rights at home and abroad.

How would you respond if I asked you to define for me in one sentence what this country is all about? Most of you—I think—would say: At its very core, this country is about giving its people the opportunity to be the best that they can be. Our country does not provide equal opportunity to all its citizens. It does not assure success. But, at the very least, it does provide opportunity and it tries to remove barriers that deny us a fair chance to succeed. Human rights are about removing those obstacles, and ensuring that all of us are treated fairly, equally, and justly in our individual pursuit of happiness.

The Columbus Human Rights Commission is so important because it does precisely that. In fighting discrimination and human rights abuses at the local level, this Commission works to ensure that the magnificent ideal of the Declaration of Independence—that all men are created equal—becomes reality. It serves to help this community be a place where everyone has an opportunity to become the best they can be.

I. CIVIL RIGHTS AT HOME: CHANGING ATTITUDES, CHANGING ISSUES

Our country is today in the midst of a national debate about civil rights and race relations, perhaps for the first time since Congress passed landmark civil and voting rights laws in the mid-1960s. I have cast over 5,000 votes in my years in Congress, but few, if any, have given me more satisfaction than to support these laws. Much of the current debate has focused on affirmative action (more on that later). The debate, however, also goes to more fundamental questions about race in America: do we continue to be two Americas, one black and one white? and if we do live in two Americas, is that acceptable? and if it is acceptable, what does that say about the future of this country?

Someone asked me the other day how public views on race relations have changed since the Civil Rights Era. Three things come to mind.

a. Public consensus

First, there was broad public consensus in the 1960s on what was wrong in our country and what needed to be done. Americans were outraged by the treatment of Civil Rights marchers in the South, and demanded that Congress take steps to secure basic civil and political liberties for all Americans in every part of the country. Today, we have strong anti-discrimination laws on the books, and an overwhelming majority of Americans agree that racial discrimination is wrong and must be proscribed.

Consensus quickly breaks down, however, once you scratch beneath the surface. Blacks and whites, for example, may agree that racial discrimination is wrong, but they have sharply differing views about how prevalent such discrimination is today in our society. In a recent poll three in four white Americans said blacks in their community are treated the same as whites. Only 49% of the blacks agreed. Whites really see very little problem when it comes to opportunities for blacks in jobs, education, and housing. Many blacks see racial discrimination as a fact of life.

Whites have generally become more optimistic that progress toward equality has occurred and that racial discrimination has declined. Blacks, in contrast, are increasingly discouraged about race relations and discrimination.

The debate over affirmative action provides another example of the breakdown in the consensus. Supporters of affirmative action say that while the situation has improved, racism persists in this country, and that affirmative action is needed to remedy the effects of discrimination. Affirmative action programs, they will note, have provided opportunities for millions of minorities, expanding the American middle class and strengthening our political system and economy. Opponents respond that affirmative action is fundamentally unfair, that people should succeed or fail based on character, talent and effort, not race. Either they say that we now live in a colorblind society so race-based policies are unnecessary, or they say that, while racism may persist, affirmative action leads to double standards which heighten rather than reduce racial tensions.

b. sense of optimism

Second, during the Civil Rights Era there was a strong sense of public optimism about tackling problems associated with race. I don't suggest it was a Golden Age. We then lived in a segregated society, where minorities were denied political and civil rights as well as economic and educational opportunities.

What has changed, however, is our outlook on the future of race relations. Back then, many of us took to heart Dr. King's vision of an integrated America, where people would be judged not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. We, blacks and whites, believed that anti-poverty efforts could wipe out the inner city slums and lift the poor into the great American middle class. We believed—perhaps naively—that anti-discrimination laws would lead to a society with fully integrated schools, neighborhoods and workplaces.

We have made remarkable progress toward racial equality over the last 30 years, seen, I suppose, most conspicuously in the expansion of voting rights and of a black middle class, educated and affluent, that has taken advantage of new opportunities. But, in many other respects, this is not the world we dreamed of 30 years ago. White and black America are, in many respects, drifting apart. Many blacks feel aggrieved. They observe that black incomes are still only 75% of white ones; 40% of black children live in poverty; black unemployment is more than twice as high; and the life expectancy for black males is more than eight years less than for white men (65 years vs. 73 years). They say whites have lost interest in their plight, cutting federal programs that benefit their communities and eliminating affirmative action programs that have created educational and job opportunities. The response of a growing number of blacks is not a call for more integration with white America, but separation and self-help.

c. demographic changes

Third, the debate on race in the 1960s was straightforward. It dealt almost exclusively